THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Passenger Fare Goods Freight Regulatory Authority

†1977. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to set up any Passenger Fare Goods Freight Regulatory Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for setting up such a Regulatory Authority; and

(d) the main objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (b) The Government decided to set up Rail Tariff Regulatory Authority to fix Rail tariffs. However, Ministry of Railways is of the view that Rail Tariff Regulatory Authority is not required and has approached the Cabinet for reconsideration of its decision.

Railway line from Kalka to Darlaghat

1978. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in laying/investigation of the Railway Line from Kalka to Darlaghat in Himachal Pradesh as provided in Railway Budget 2004-05; and "

(b) the total amount provided for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A survey for construction of new rail line between Parwanoo and Darlaghat has been included in the Budget 2004-05. The survey is in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

progress. Further consideration of the proposal would be feasible once the survey report becomes available.

(b) An amount of Rs. 1.50 lakh has been provided in 2004-05 and Rs. 1.10 lakh has been proposed in the Budget 2005-06 for the above survey.

Incomplete work at Turbe - Thane Section

1979. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after spending a sum of over Rs. 109 crores on the Turbe-Thane Section of the Central Railway the work remains incomplete and is going on at snails pace;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in handling the work and the slow pace of implementation; and

(c) the original cost of the project and the cost escalation incurred so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Thane-Turbe Double line commuter corridor on Central Railway has been completed and was commissioned for traffic on 9.11.2004. The project is jointly funded by City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) and the Railways in 2:1 proportion. Upto February, 2005 total expenditure incurred on the project Thane-Turbe-Nerul-Vashi Corridor No. 2 is Rs. 321.70 crore (Rs. 197.12 crore by CIDCO and Rs. 124.58 crore by the Railway).

(b) Does not arise as the work has been completed.

(c) The original estimated cost of the project was Rs. 134.3 crore in the year 1996-97 and the revised cost is Rs. 403.39 crore.

Amenities at Bidhannagar Railway Station

1980. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of daily commuters who use Bidhannagar Railway Station under Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway;